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Resolution 1977-03-12 Water Bank

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFWA hereby expresses its opposition to H.R. 39 as introduced, and similar legislation which overemphasizes the preservation aspects of conservation and fails to recognize the balanced or wise use concept of resources management, and which creates "instant" wilderness without following an orderly study and public hearing process, pre-empts State fish and wildlife management rights, promotes differential privileges among ethnic groups, and discourages cooperative management by state and private landowners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association supports the basic principles of legislation which provides for balanced resource use, wilderness preservation after suitable review, and cooperative wildlife management.

Resolution #3

WATER BANK

WHEREAS, wetlands continue to be destroyed by private landowner drainage; and

WHEREAS, farmers presently are plagued by huge stocks of grain and poor grain prices, and additional drainage of wetland acres would only aggravate this problem; and

WHEREAS, the *Water Bank* program has become extremely popular with landowners in the Northern Great Plains; and

WHEREAS, the *Water Bank* program has proven to be extremely valuable in flood prevention and soil and water conservation, and valuable to wildlife, especially migratory birds;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFWA hereby urges full and continuous funding of the *Water Bank* at the annual level of \$50,000,000, with administration of the program to remain in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Resolution #4

APPRAISAL OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES

WHEREAS, a Senate-House Conference Committee is now considering versions of a proposal to create a Land and Water Resources Conservation Act; and

WHEREAS, this proposal is intended to be a counterpart to the Resources Planning Act, relating to forest resources; and

WHEREAS, periodic appraisals of the nation's land and water resources are necessary and desirable;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFWA hereby urges that the Congress enact a Land and Water Resources Act which requires an appraisal of the nation's land and water resources, with a program for conservation and periodic reviews of progress, utilizing to the degree possible, arrangements with State resource agencies to carry out studies, surveys, and appraisals.